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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

3 1 OCT 1974

Office of the Director

DCI/IC 74-1141

The Honorable Albert C. Hall
Assistant Secretary of Defense
    for Intelligence
Room 3E282, Pentagon
Washington, D.C.   20301

Dear Dr. Hall:

Work has been going on in the CIA Central Reference Service for the past two years to carry out preliminary studies and tests of a computerized system which has been named Project SAFE (Support for Analysts File Environment).   This study has culminated in the attached report.

The system proposed involves several hundred remote cathode ray tube terminals, through which analysts will be able to receive mail, create and edit files and reports, search for and retrieve information from local and Agency central files, and related tasks.   A testing program over the past year has involved daily participation by analyst branches in the DDI and DDS&T directorates.   The proposed system, which is modular, has been looked at by several contractors from the standpoint of feasibility and system design, but not for the purpose of making proposals to actually build SAFE.   Direct SAFE costs are projected at about ☐ million, spread over several years.

Mr. Colby has just been briefed on the attached report.   He has asked that you and Mort Goulder be brought into this picture so that we may consider together the community implications of this work.   At present, no DCI decisions have been made, no funding approved, and no contractors selected.   We have included some funds for the community to explore SAFE's applicability as part of our report to OMB on the special ☐ proposal.

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A briefing on SAFE can be arranged for you and your staff. Our point of contact is [   ] Acting Chairman, USIB/IHC. Mr. Colby has also directed that this report be sent to the USIB membership through the IHC, and SAFE will be a principal agenda topic at the IHC meeting that is now being scheduled for mid-November.

<div style="text-align: center;">Sincerely,</div>

/s/ Samuel V. Wilson

Samuel V. Wilson
Lieutenant General, USA
Deputy to the DCI for the
   Intelligence Community

Attachment
  Project SAFE, Copy No. 82

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